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Central Intelligence Agency
National Foreign Assessment Center
Office of Imagery Analysis

ECONOMIC RESOURCES DIVISION

Significant Substantive Items, Week of 7 January 1980

1. The fifth course of Imagery Analysis Applications for the Economic Analyst was conducted this week for 11 OER analysts. The OER analysts represented five divisions and the Petroleum Supply Analysis Center. For the most part, the analysts attending were relatively new to OER and discussions with them indicated a positive reaction to the use of imagery and an interest in applying imagery analysis in the course of their all-source analysis. [] again provided the OER coordination for the course and he expressed the increased awareness in OER of imagery analysis through [] economists who have attended to date. []

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2. [] provided a briefing on the Cheboksary Tractor Plant in the USSR to [], Chief, USSR/Eastern Europe Division, OER; [], Chief, Soviet Machinery Branch, OER; and two OER analysts. The tractor plant is under construction approximately 500 kilometers east of Moscow and is intended to manufacture industrial tractors larger than any currently produced by the Soviets. Construction began [] and was originally scheduled for completion in []. Various resource supply problems have delayed completion until at least the latter part of []. [] has been interested in the plant for some time because of the importance which the Soviets have publicly attached to it and because US firms are providing some of the machinery that will be used in the manufacturing process. [] is currently conducting a comprehensive study for OER of the Soviet tractor manufacturing industry which will be published later this year. Her briefing was well received and stimulated questions and discussion by all present. []

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3. During the 3-day orientation for OER analysts, discussions were held with [] deputy of OER/PSAC. They centered on a project to develop a photo-derived data base on key facilities in the world's oil production and distribution system, so we can respond quickly in the event of terrorist activities or other disruptions. [] is in the process of preparing a list of the facilities to be included. []

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4. Several briefing boards were prepared for an OER briefing of COMIREX, scheduled for 23 January, to demonstrate OER's use of [redacted] imagery in the analysis of Soviet energy and resource development. A similar briefing presented to ICRS in December was very well received and led to the decision to brief COMIREX. Representatives of the Petroleum Analysis Project, Petroleum Supply Analysis Center, the Soviet Industries and Resources Branch of OER, and OIA/ERD will attend. [redacted]

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[redacted]
Chief, Economic Resources Division
Office of Imagery Analysis

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